

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /076 W
----- 040114

R 241312Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4078
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION NATO
USEC RUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SP

SUBJ: GOS OVERTURES FOR RELATIONS WITH ALL STATES

REF: MADRID 8883 (NOTAL)

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1. IN SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEW MFA UNDER SECRETARY DEC 20, FONMIN AREILZA MADE A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID COOPERATION WITH ALL STATES IN THE WORLD WITHOUT EXCEPTION AS HIS AIM. AREILZA SAID GOS INTENDED TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS BY REMOVING TABOOS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS. SPAIN, HE SAID, WOULD SEEK TO DRAW CLOSER TO EUROPE THEREBY CONFIRMING ITS "ATLANTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN VOCATION" AND TO CONTINUE CLOSE RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES WITH HISTORICAL TIES, E.E., LATIN AMERICA, AND THE ARAB COUNTRIES. WITH RESPECT TO THE VATICAN, AREILZA SAID EACH WOULD HAVE TO DELIMIT ITS COMPETENCE AND SEEK A CONCORD. FINMIN'S REMARKS WERE COMPARABLE IN SUBSTANCE TO THOSE WHICH HE MADE TO SPANISH CORRESPONDENTS IN PARIS DEC 17 (REFTEL).

2. THERE IS ALREADY MOVEMENT SUGGESTING THAT THE GOS IS INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE, MEXICO, AND PERHAPS ISRAEL. WITH RESPECT TO THE FIRST GROUP, AREILZA ALLUDED TO POSSIBILITY OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW IN HIS PRESS COMMENTS IN PARIS, DEC 17. SOVIET COMMERCIAL REPS IN MADRID TOLD AN EMBOFF DEC 22 THAT FROM THE SOVIET STANDPOINT THERE WAS NO OBSTACLE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. INDEED, THE SAME OFFICIALS, IN CONVERSATION WITH SPANISH POLITICIANS, TOOK THE LINE THAT THE PRESENT GOS SHOULD GO SLOWLY AND CAUTIOUSLY IN DEMOCRATIZING THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

3. WITH RESPECT TO MEXICO, THE MEXICAN AIRLINE RENEWED ITS SERVICE TO MADRID DEC 17 WHEN THE GOM ALSO ALLOWED THE SPANISH OFFICIAL PRESS AGENCY "EFE" TO REESTABLISH ITS OFFICE IN MEXICO CITY. BOTH THESE SERVICES WERE CUT OFF AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER 1975 BECAUSE OF MEXICAN OBJECTIONS TO THE EXECUTION OF FIVE CONVICTED TERRORIST MURDERERS IN SPAIN. DURING HIS PARIS STAY, FONMIN AREILZA HAD A PRIVATE TALK WITH FRANCISCO XAVIER ALEJO, MINISTER OF THE MEXICAN NATIONAL PATRIMONY, WHICH HAS BEEN INTERPRETED AS AN EFFORT TO SMOOTH OVER BILATERAL RELATIONS, PERHAPS LEADING TO TALKS ABOUT FORMAL RELATIONS.

4. THE ISSUE OF DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL WAS RAISED
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BY ISRAELI FONMIN ALLON IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH A CORRESPONDENT OF THE "LA VANGUARDIA" (INDEPENDENT) DEC 22. ALLON SAID THAT TIME HAS COME FOR SPAIN AND ISRAEL TO BEGIN TO KNOW EACH OTHER OFFICIALLY, ADDING THAT HE SAW NO IMPORTANT OBSTACLES FOR CLOSER COLLABORATION. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY POSSIBLE IN ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, HE ADDED. ALLON SAID THAT ISRAEL HAD NOTED THAT SPAIN HAD BEEN ABSENT DURING THE VOTING OF THE ZIONIST RESOLUTION IN

THE UN AND WOULD INTERPRET THE SPANISH GESTURE IN THE SPIRIT
IN WHICH IT WAS INTENDED. IN A SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, WE
HAVE NOTED THAT A SPANISH CHILDREN'S CHOIR FROM A LEADING
JESUIT SECONDARY SCHOOL WILL SPEND THE HOLIDAYS IN ISRAEL
ON A KIBBUTZ AND SING IN A CHRISTMAS CAROLS COMPETITION
IN RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INVITATION FROM THE ISRAELI
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

5. COMMENT: THERE IS SOME DISILLUSIONMENT IN SPANISH OFFICIALDOM
OVER THE LACK OF ARAB SUPPORT FOR SPAIN DURING THE RECENT SAHARAN
CRISIS. A NUMBER OF KEY PERSONALITIES IN THE PRESENT
GOVT HAVE PRIVATELY INDICATED IN EARLIER CONTACTS WITH
EMBOFFS THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE RELATIONS ESTABLISHED
WITH ISRAEL.
EATON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID09021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750448-0334
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751212/aaaaajww.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 8883
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 08 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <10 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOS OVERTURES FOR RELATIONS WITH ALL STATES
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SP, XX, (AREILZA, JOSE MARIA DE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006